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SAFC-4981

Copy 9 of 10

12 April 1956

**MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Administration
Director of Operations**

SUBJECT : Administrative Control of Detachment Personnel

1. During recent weeks we have faced a difficult problem in scheduling leave and also trips to Headquarters for processing of personnel who are members of Detachment B. This is especially a problem with Security and Commo personnel. From a casual reading of the cable traffic, I would gather that this Headquarters has frequently handled this business directly with Security and Commo officers at [REDACTED] and that the Commander of Detachment A has not in all cases been in a position to take the initiative in making these arrangements or to initiate very much control over his own staff.

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2. Under the circumstances of this initial deployment, it is understandable that matters should have been handled in this way. Nevertheless, this has already given rise to a feeling on the part of [REDACTED] that he does not control his own base, even in the weeks after the formal activation of his own Detachment and just prior to its deployment when he has been responsible for important simulated combat conditions, other training exercises, and preparations for deployment.

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3. For the future, it must be recognized by all elements that, after the activation of a Detachment to [REDACTED] its personnel are under the control of its Commander and that the movement of its personnel can not be directed by staff officers in Headquarters. When Detachment B goes into training, the responsibility should be placed upon [REDACTED] to schedule both TDY and processing and necessary pre-deployment leave for all the personnel assigned to him. It will of course be necessary for staff officers at Headquarters to work with him in making these arrangements and it is entirely appropriate for this Headquarters to initiate plans and arrangements which, however, should not go into effect until he has had a chance to comment on them.

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4. More generally, I would emphasize that the purpose of activating each Detachment at [REDACTED] well before its deployment is 25X1A6a to cut the direct line between particular groups in the Detachment and corresponding components in Headquarters and instead to place all of the Detachment's personnel under the immediate control of its Commander. We should be careful not to go counter to this general purpose.

(sgd) Richard M. Bissell, Jr.

RICHARD M. BISSELL, JR.
Project Director

cc: Dep Proj Dir
Security Offr
Commo Offr

RMB:g/g (10 April 56)

Distribution:

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6-[REDACTED]

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